

Police vol 14.

AN
ACCOUNT
OF THE
Prisons and Houses of Correction
IN THE
WESTERN CIRCUIT.

1789

IF any of the Gentlemen to whom this Pamphlet is sent will be kind enough to give the SOCIETY an account of improvements undertaken in consequence of these observations, such communications will be esteemed a favour by the SOCIETY; and are requested to be addressed to their Secretary, Mr. Bennett, under a cover directed to his Grace the Duke of Montagu, President of the Society for giving Effect to his Majesty's Proclamation.

Privy Garden, London,
June, 1789.

MONTAGU HOUSE, June 12th, 1789.

AT a meeting of the Committee of the Society instituted for giving effect to His Majesty's proclamation against vice and immorality.

The Sub-Committee, agreeably to the Resolutions of May 4th and 25th, presented eight Pamphlets, containing Extracts from Mr. Howard's Account of the Present State of the Prisons, together with a general Introduction to those Extracts.

Resolved,

That the Sub-Committee be requested to send Copies of the said Pamphlets, in the name of the Society, to the Judges, Sheriffs, Gentlemen of the Grand Juries, Magistrates, Clerks of the Peace, and such other persons as they shall think proper, in the different counties and towns in England and Wales.

MONTAGU, PRESIDENT.

ERRATA. INTRODUCTION.

P. 9, l. 16.—Vide Act. 13, G. III. Cap. 58.

P. 11, l. 5.—For *Keepers*, read *Keeper*.

Abstract, p. 1. add Cap. 59, and Cap. 54.



AN
 ACCOUNT
 OF THE
 PRESENT STATE OF THE PRISONS
 AND
 HOUSES OF CORRECTION
 IN THE
 WESTERN CIRCUIT.

Taken from a late Publication of
 JOHN HOWARD, Esq. F.R.S.

By Permission of the Author.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED,
 AN INTRODUCTION,

STATING

The Acts lately passed for improving the Prisons in this kingdom.
 The good Effects which have resulted from those Acts, where they have been carried into Execution.

The Abuses which still continue where they have been neglected; and
 The means by which those Abuses may most effectually be corrected.

The best laws will fail in their effect, unless the assiduous and zealous endeavours of Magistrates be exerted in a strict attention to their execution.....HOWARD, page 234.

LONDON:

Printed by Order of the SOCIETY lately instituted for giving Effect to his Majesty's Proclamation against VICE and IMMORALITY.

IN those places in the following Extracts in which the words
“ No ALTERATION ” are inserted, particular attention
is recommended to be paid to the Gaols, as those Gaols will
for the most part be found in a very bad condition. A refer-
ence to Mr. HOWARD's Publication in 1784, would on these
occasions be adviseable.





INTRODUCTION.



A FEW years ago, the state of the Prisons and Houses of Correction in this kingdom, was such as was calculated to counteract almost every purpose for which those buildings were intended. In consequence of the total want of attention to air, to cleanliness, and whatever concerned the health of prisoners, the gaol-fever prevailed to such a degree, as to occasion the death of many more persons than fell by the hands of the executioner. The fatal effects of this disorder were often extended to debtors, as well as felons; to the keepers of prisons, as well as those con-

a

fined

fined in them ; to witneſſes, to jurymen, and even to Judges on the bench.*

The morals of priſoners were at this time as much neglected as their health. Idleneſs, drunkenneſs, and all kinds of vice, were ſuffered to continue in ſuch a manner as to confirm old offenders in their bad practices, and to render it almoſt certain, that the minds of thoſe who were confined for their firſt faults, would be corrupted, inſtead of being corrected, by their imprifonment.

In this ſituation, it is probable, the gaols in this Iſland would ſtill have continued, if the attention of the Public had not been called to the ſubject by the labours of Mr. HOWARD. The true ſtate of the priſons was made known by that gentleman, and the means were pointed out by which they might be improved.

In conſequence of the information which was thus obtained, the ſubject was conſidered by the

* At the aſſize held in Oxford Caſtle, 1577; all who were preſent died within forty hours. The Lord Chief Baron, the Sheriff, and about 300 more.

Vide Baker's Chronicle, page 353.

Legislature with the attention which its importance deserved. Several acts of Parliament were passed for the better regulation of gaols and houses of correction; and in consequence of these acts, and of the exertions of many public bodies, and public-spirited individuals, much good has been done. Many new prisons have been built, in which the chief defects of the old ones have been avoided, many of the old ones have been improved, and attention has been paid to air, to cleanliness, and of course to health. The result of the whole has been, that the *gaol-fever* by which such numbers not only of guilty, but of innocent persons were destroyed, *is now almost eradicated*, and our gaols may for the most part be visited without danger. But it is observed, that at this point the spirit of improvement unhappily seems to stop, scarcely touching upon that still more important object, the reformation of the morals of prisoners.

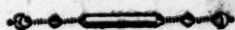
It is with a view to attain this object, and to correct those abuses which still continue in our gaols, that the following observations are submitted to the consideration of those persons, whose situation renders them the most able to contribute to so good a work. The task will perhaps not be found to be so difficult as it may at first sight be

supposed. If the acts of the 14th Geo. III. cap. 59, and 24 Geo. III. cap. 54, are examined, it will appear that provision is already made for the correction of most of these abuses, and what is now chiefly required, is to take care that those acts are properly enforced. The following pages point out the good effects which have resulted from them, where they have been carried into execution; and the evils which still continue, where they have been neglected.

For these reasons, it is hoped, that the Magistrates in the different Circuits will exert themselves in their respective Towns and Counties; and that taking the following observations as their guide, they will endeavour to carry into effect the good intentions of the Legislature. For this purpose, the several circumstances here mentioned are particularly recommended to their attention.*

* Most of the regulations which follow are expressly enjoined in some of the acts lately passed for the improvement of gaols; but many of the clauses in those acts have been too much neglected in several towns and counties.

I. That



I. That agreeably to the act of the 32d of Geo. II. cap. 28, Rules be made by the Justices, and confirmed by the Judges, for the direction of the gaolers, and the conduct of the prisoners, and that the same be painted on a board in a legible manner, and hung up in one or more conspicuous parts of every prison.*

II. That the act of the 14th of Geo. III. cap. 59; and the clauses against drunkenness, in the 20, 21, 22, and 23 sections of the act of the 24th of Geo. III, cap. 54, be in like manner hung up in the prisons.†

III. That until the laudable example of the county of Suffex, and some few other places, in abolishing all fees, be generally adopted, a table of fees made by the Justices, and confirmed by the Judges, be also hung up in the prisons; and that

* What is here recommended has been carried into execution in a very proper manner at Reading, Bury, and Lancaster.— Any persons who wish the gaols under their direction to be well managed, would find it worth while to procure copies of the regulations established at those places.

† Vide act 14 Geo. III, cap. 59.

no garnish, or any other fee but what is allowed as above, be permitted to be taken of any prisoner.*

IV. That every prison be white-washed at least once in every year, and that this be done twice (that is to say after each gaol delivery) in prisons which are much crowded.†

V. That a pump and plentiful supply of water be provided, and that every part of the prison be kept as clean as possible.‡

VI. That every prison be supplied with a warm and cold bath, or commodious bathing tubs, and that the prisoners be indulged in the use of such baths, with a proper allowance of soap, and the use of towels.§

VII. That attention be paid to the sewers, in order to render them as little offensive as possible.

* Vide act 32 Geo. II. cap. 21, sect. 12.

† Vide act 14 Geo. III. cap. 59.

‡ Vide ibid.

§ Vide ibid.

VIII. That no animals of any kind which render a prison dirty, be allowed to be kept in it, either by the gaoler, or any prisoner. The only exception to this rule, should be one dog kept by the gaoler.*

IX. That great care be taken, that as perfect a separation as possible be made of the following classes of prisoners, viz. That felons be kept entirely separate from debtors; men from women;

* If any persons should be of opinion, that the attention to cleanliness which is recommended in the five foregoing articles, has little connection with the morals of prisoners, they are requested to read the following extracts from *Mr. Howard's* last publication:

“ Endeavouring to introduce habits of cleanliness is an object of great importance, as many officers have observed, that the most cleanly men are always the most decent and honest, and the most slovenly and dirty are the most vicious and irregular.” Page 218.

“ I have repeatedly observed, that when I have pulled down old cottages that had clay floors, and no pantry, no pump, no out-house for fuel, nor any vault, and have built new ones with these conveniences, which have also been white-washed both within and without—the very same families that were before slovenly and dirty, have upon this change of their habitations, become clean and neat in their persons, in their houses, and gardens.” Page 118.

old

old offenders from young beginners ; and convicts from those who have not been tried.*

X. That all prisoners, except debtors, be clothed on their admission with a prison uniform, and that their own clothes be returned them when they are brought to trial, or are dismissed.

XI. That care be taken that the prisoners are properly supplied with food, and their allowance not deficient, either in weight or quality.†

XII. That no gaoler, or any person in trust for him, or employed by him, be permitted to sell any wine, beer, or other liquors, or permit or suffer any such to be sold in any prison ; or on any pretence whatever, to suffer any tippling or gaming in the prison.‡

* Vide act 22 Geo. III. cap. 64.

† Vide *ibid.*

‡ This is expressly commanded in the act of 24 Geo. III. cap. 54, sect. 20 and 22, and attention to this circumstance is most earnestly recommended, as Mr. HOWARD observes, page 234, " No effectual reform will be made in our prisons till the root of the evil be cut off, which, from the closest observation, I am convinced is the *vice of drunkenness*."

XIII. That a proper salary be given to the gaoler, in lieu of the profits which he formerly derived from the tap, from fees, and other perquisites.*

XIV. That those prisoners who are committed to hard labour be not permitted to be idle, and that such other prisoners as are willing to work, be supplied with materials, and be allowed part of the profits of such work, as the act directs.†

XV. That a clergyman be appointed, with a proper salary, and that divine service be regularly performed on Sundays and holydays: that on those days no persons be allowed to visit the prisoners; and that such prisoners as will not attend divine service be locked up, and not suffered to disturb others while it is performed.

XVI. That care be taken that no swearing, cursing, or profane conversation be permitted, that the keepers and turnkeys be cautioned against

* Vide act 24 Geo. III. cap. 54, sect. 20.

† Vide act 22 Geo. III. cap. 64, sect. 7.

it, and strictly enjoined not to suffer the prisoners to be guilty of it.*

XVII. That cells be provided for the refractory, and night-rooms for solitary confinement, but that no prisoner be kept in any dungeon, or room under ground.†

XVIII. That a surgeon or apothecary be appointed (with a proper salary) to afford the necessary assistance to the sick, and that two rooms, one for men, and one for women, be set apart as infirmaries, and be furnished with proper bedding.‡

XIX. That great attention be paid to what concerns the debtors, as it is found that that part of the management of our prisons has hitherto been the most neglected.

XX. That wherever any legacies have been bequeathed, or any charitable donations given for the benefit of prisoners, an account of the same be hung up in the prison; and that care be taken that

* Vide 22 Geo. III. cap. 64.

† Vide act 14 Geo. III. cap. 59.

‡ Vide *ibid.*

the sums of money so given, be employed to the purposes for which they were intended by the donors.

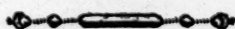
XXI. That agreeably to the act of 22 Geo. III. cap. 64, the keepers of every house of correction be obliged to deliver to the Chairman at the Quarter Sessions, a list of the prisoners in his custody, distinguishing their age and sex, and mentioning in what trade or business each person hath been employed, and is best qualified for; as also the behaviour of such person during his or her confinement.*

XXII. That the prisons be frequently visited; that the visitors take notice whether the regulations which have been established are observed or neglected; that a report from the visitors be presented to the Justices at every Sessions, and that these reports be taken into consideration, at least once a year, viz. at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions.

XXIII. That attention be paid to prisoners when they are discharged, and that, if possible,

* If this order were strictly enforced, it would necessarily oblige the gaoler to pay some attention to the prisoners in his custody.

some means be pointed out to them, by which they may be enabled to gain a livelihood in an honest manner.



In the plan here proposed, it is to be observed, that no indulgence is recommended to be shewn to prisoners, but what is necessary in order to preserve their health and reform their morals. The use of imprisonment is to correct those who are vicious, to deter others from becoming so, to confine such as are suspected of crimes till their guilt or innocence is proved; and lastly, to secure the persons of debtors for the benefit of their creditors. If this is the case, how strongly are we called upon to take care that the debtor, the person whose guilt is doubtful, and the young offender,* be not exposed, while in prison, to any disorders which may destroy his health, or endanger his life; or to any temptation from bad example, or bad society, which may render it probable that he will be sent

* In Holland, Switzerland, and Scotland, the number of young offenders, and of prisoners of all kinds, debtors as well as felons, is very small. This is chiefly to be ascribed to the care which is taken in those countries to bring up children in habits of industry, and to give even the poorest a moral and religious education.

back

back into the world, a worse member of the community than he was at the beginning of his confinement.

The success which has attended the attempts already made to reform the state of our gaols, gives the greatest reason to hope, that by persisting in our endeavours, we may complete the desired object. If after all that has been done, our prisons were now in as dreadful a condition as when Mr. HOWARD first visited them, there would be some reason to fear that the evil was not to be conquered; but as we find that the greatest difficulties are already overcome, that the greatest dangers are removed, and that in several counties * the labours of

* The examples of the counties of York, Suffex, Cornwall, Lancaster, Norfolk, Suffolk, Gloucester, and Oxford, are worthy of imitation; and the following accounts of Oxford and Wymondham, deserve to be noticed in every part of the kingdom, as they shew in what manner a county gaol, and county bridewell may (*without additional expense to the county*) be made places of real reformation.

COUNTY GAOL, OXFORD CASTLE.

The convicts were employed in building the new gaol. The lodges and the gateway, with the chapel over it, were built entirely by them. They were guarded only by one man, though several

of the magistrates have been attended with greater success than the most sanguine advocates for reformation had ventured to predict—in such a case,

several of them for their good behaviour had their irons taken off. This proves that among such delinquents many are reclaimable, and not so entirely abandoned, as some are apt to suppose. The encouragements here given with respect to their diet, clothes, and term of confinement, have been the means of recovering many from their bad habits, and of rendering them useful members of society. Here the convicts are not defrauded of the King's allowance of 2s. 6d. a week.

An account of the earnings of the Prisoners in the County Gaol and Bridewell of Oxford, together with the expense of their maintenance, materials for work, &c. &c. from January 23, 1786, to January 7, 1787.

	£.	s.	d.
Total earnings - - - - -	198	1	11
Expense in county allowance of bread	58	19	0
Clothes and extra feeding - - - -	85	1	9½
Over-looker - - - - -	22	10	0
Materials for work, &c. - - - -	11	11	0
Total expense - - -	178	1	9½
Total earnings - - -	198	1	11

Balance gained by the county from Jan.

23, 1786, to Jan. 7, 1787 - - - 20 : 0 : 1½

Ditto gained by the county from Jan.

7, 1787, to Jan. 1, 1788 - - - 113 : 9 : 2

Ditto gained by the county from Jan. 1,

1788, to Jan. 1, 1789 - - - 135 : 15 : 6

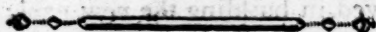
This

case, it may reasonably be expected, that no person whose situation affords the means of contributing
to

This great increase in the balance is chiefly owing to the convicts being employed in building the new gaol; it cannot therefore be expected that it should continue as great when the building is finished. There is however little reason to doubt of a considerable sum being always gained to the county from the work of the convicts. It should also be observed, that the saving the expense of maintaining convicts, which would otherwise be incurred, and the gaining a balance in favour of the county, are but secondary advantages. The great benefit which has resulted from the exertions of the magistrates in this county, is the reformation in the morals of the prisoners. In this respect they have been remarkably successful; and it deserves to be noticed, that in order to bring the convicts to habits of industry, promises have been found more effectual than threats. A subscription has been raised by the gentlemen of the county, by which some prisoners, when discharged, have been clothed, others have been furnished with a complete set of tools to go on with their work or manufacture; and a little money has been given them at their discharge, with an assurance of further encouragement, in case they brought a certificate of their good behaviour from their employers at the end of the year. Promises of rewards of this kind, or in some cases of applying to his Majesty to remit part of the term of confinement, have in every instance but one, answered much better than threats of further or more severe punishment.

WYMOND.

to so good a work, will refuse to take some pains to put the finishing hand to what has been so happily and successfully begun.



WYMONDHAM.

By examining the accounts of the house of correction at Wymondham, in the county of Norfolk, from October 8, 1783, to April 11, 1789, it appears that the earnings of the convicts have every year exceeded the expense of maintaining them, and in the course of five years and a half, the balance gained by the county, after defraying all charges, has amounted to £262 : 18 : 5 $\frac{1}{4}$. It is also to be observed, that by means of this well-regulated house of correction, many offenders have been brought to acquire habits of industry; and no method is found so effectual towards reforming the morals of delinquents, as the teaching them a profitable trade. It is a FACT, that some, even of those convicts who appeared the worst, are now become useful members of the community, and support themselves and their families, by the practice of that trade, which was taught them during their confinement in the prison of Wymondham.



ABSTRACT



A B S T R A C T

FROM

MR. HOWARD'S

ACCOUNT OF THE ENGLISH PRISONS,
&c.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.

H A M P S H I R E.

COUNTY GAOL AT WINCHESTER.

A NEW prison for felons, at the back of the old gaol, is nearly finished. Allowance to felons a threepenny loaf a day (weight 2 *lb.* 3 *oz.*). Convicts receive only part of the half crown a week, though charged by the under sheriff in his bill of cravings. Gaoler's salary £200 in lieu

†† B

of

of the tap,* and £75 for his two turnkeys. The gaol is kept very clean, and frequently visited by the magistrates; yet I saw no bath: and no rules or orders are hung up.

1788, July 4, Debtors 31. Felons, &c. 30.

COUNTY BRIDEWELLS.

WINCHESTER. A new and spacious prison (the foundation stone laid June 7, 1786, finished Nov. 6, 1787) which has four courts, and a pump in each court; a chapel, and infirmary. There is a good house for the keeper, and the prison is kept very clean. Keeper's salary £100 in lieu of *all* fees, and £30 for the turnkey. The prisoners' names and terms of confinement are hung on the doors of their solitary cells. Allowance, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ a day in bread, and to those that work $2d.$ more. The prison is

* I am persuaded that in this, Warwick, Brecon, and several other gaols, debtors *now* sell beer.

constantly visited by a worthy nobleman in this city.

1788, July 4, Prisoners 26.

GOSPORT. No alteration. Only one day-room for men and women. No employment. Allowance, two pennyworth of bread. Keeper's salary £52 in lieu of the tap.

1788, July 6, Prisoners 2.

ODIAM. No alteration. Only one day-room for men and women. No employment. Allowance, three halfpenny worth of fine bread (weight 17 oz.). No fuel nor bedding allowed by the county. Prison not white-washed these *five* years. Keeper a sheriff's officer; his salary £15. The large room in the centre still kept for a brew-house.

1788, July 11, Prisoners, one Man and one Woman.

At WINCHESTER, the old County Bridewell is now the CITY PRISON. No alteration in it. The keeper has a licence for beer and wine.

1788, July 4, No prisoners.

The PRISON for *Debtors* called the *Cheney Court*, the property of the Bishop, is now discontinued.

COUNTY HOSPITAL at WINCHESTER.

In this *hospital* all the windows of the passages and staircase were shut, and the under (or venereal) wards were dirty, close and offensive. The bedsteads are iron, and painted green: the furniture blue and white. The patients, who are able to sit up, dine *very properly* in a room adjoining to their wards. Here, and in several of our county hospitals, I could wish there were large apertures over the doors (as in the *London hospital*)

tal) to prevent, in part, the offensiveness of the wards at night.

July 4th, 1788, Patients 43.*

SOUTHAMPTON. The BAR GATE is discontinued as a prison for debtors.

The *gaol* for felons (the *tower*) is enlarged, and converted into two prisons, one for debtors, the other for felons; each of which has a court and water, and a separate keeper. Salary to each 10*l*. Allowance to prisoners, 3*d*. a day.

1788, July 5, Debtors 2. Felons 2.

SOUTHAMPTON BRIDEWELL. No alteration.

1788, July 5, No Prisoners.

* Out of the gate of this city, there is a pillar erected (as a memorial of a dreadful *plague* that swept off a great number of the inhabitants) upon the spot to which provisions were then brought for the supply of the city.

PORTS-

PORTSMOUTH TOWN GAOL:

No alteration, but cleaner than at my former visits. No convenience for the separation of the sexes in this *close* prison. Debtors' window towards the street. Allowance to felons, a two-penny loaf, and a penny in money. Clauses against spirituous liquors now hung up: the keeper no licence: salary 60*l*.

1788, July 8, Debtors 3. Felons, &c. 18.

The ROYAL HOSPITAL at HASLAR near Gos- PORT.

I always found this *well-conducted* hospital remarkably clean and quiet, and (what is very different from the practice in the county hospitals)

none

none of the floors were sanded, or dry rubbed, and the windows on all the staircases were open.* The patients have white linen shirts and the hospital clothes; and the linen of the beds is white. In this hospital there are about eighteen hundred beds, nineteen or twenty in general in a ward. The wards are 60 feet by 24, and the height 12 feet, on two floors, and ten on the third, and the arcades below are twenty-four feet wide. All the nurses here, and in the hospital at Plymouth, are women, which is very proper, as they are more cleanly and tender; and they more easily pacify the patients, who are seafaring men. Visitors are admitted, very properly, only on two days in a week. The staircases are spacious, but they are of wood: the risers are too high; and there is no hand-rail on the wall. The *inside sewers* are offensive: there are *no cisterns* in the wards: the pipes by which they are supplied with water, both for drink and washing, adjoin (*indelicate*ly) to the sewers. The two cells for lunatic patients are too close and badly situated. The cieling of the
Attic

* Dr. Lind long since informed me, that he had the sash windows on the staircases nailed up in summer, to prevent their being shut.

Attic floor is too low (seven feet); when the hospital is new roofed, it may be raised with little additional expense. To each wing there should be a sea-bath; and a *circulation of air* is as *absolutely necessary* through the centre of the *front* as in the wings. If there were apertures into the passages, near the ceiling, they would keep the wards fresh at night. Under several of the wards there are cellars for wood, lumber, &c. which are dangerous in case of fire. For security against fire and infectious disorders I prefer the hospital at Plymouth, a plan of which is in my former work.

Some of the principal offices, such as the dispensary, water-works, wash-house, bed-house and fumigating cells, being *very properly* detached buildings, are not in the plan which I give of this hospital at Haslar.

The following REGULATIONS and ORDERS were
hung up in the *Wards*.

R E G U L A T I O N S

*Respecting the NURSES and other SERVANTS of the
ROYAL HOSPITAL at HASLAR.*

ORDERED,

- I. That none of the nurses, or other servants in the hospital, do conceal the effects of any of the patients who may die therein; reports of such effects are to be made, immediately after the decease of the patients, to the agent, or his clerk, by the respective nurses of the wards.
- II. That no bags, chests, or bundles of any kind, belonging to the patients, be received, or kept in any of the wards, or nurses cabins, but carried to the bed-house.

†† C

III.

- III. That no dirt, bones, or rags, be thrown out of any window, or down the bogs, but carried to the places appointed for that purpose; nor are any cloaths of the patients, or others, to be hung out of any of the windows of the house.
- IV. That no foul linen, whether sheets or shirts, be kept in the cabins, or wards, but sent immediately to the matron, in order to its being carried to the wash-house; and the nurses are to obey the orders of the matron in punctually shifting the bed and body linen of the patients, *viz.* their sheets once a fortnight, their shirts once in four days, their night caps, drawers and stockings once a week, or oftener if found necessary.
- V. That no nurse or other person do wash in the water closets.
- VI. That no hospital dress or any part of that dress, be carried out of the fever, flux, or small-pox wards into other wards, nor are the men to be permitted to wear any part

part of their own cloaths in these wards; and the patients are not to be suffered to wear the hospital night-caps out of their proper wards, but by permission of the physician or surgeon.

VII. That dead bodies be not left longer in the wards or lobbies than the precise time ordered by the physician or surgeon, at the expiration of which, and not before, they are to be carried into the dead-house.

VIII. That no nurse do admit any patients, on any pretence whatsoever, into her cabin, nor suffer any person to remain in it at night, not even her husband or child.

IX. That any nurse concealing the escape of any patient from her ward, or that has not made due report, at the agent's office, of her having missed such patient, be discharged the hospital, upon proof thereof.

X. That all nurses who disobey the matron's orders, get drunk, neglect their patients, quar-

rel or fight with any other nurses, or quarrel with the men, or do not prudently and cautiously reveal, to the superior officers of the house, all irregularities committed by the patients in their wards (such as drinking, smoking tobacco in the wards, quarrelling, destroying the medicines, or stores, feigning complaints, and neglecting their cure) be immediately discharged the service of the house, and a note made against their names, on the books of the hospital, that they may never more be employed.

XI. That the nurses take care to prevent the patients from lying down in their beds with their cloaths on, or having their wearing apparel on their beds or cradles, or any bread, butter, or provisions of any kind, upon the heads of their cradles, or about their beds, and that no victuals be dressed in the wards.

XII. That if any men are taken ill in the recovery ward, so as to be obliged to take to their beds, the nurses do acquaint the assistant in waiting therewith, that they may

may be immediately removed, if that shall be judged necessary.

XIII. That the nurses provide themselves always with a sufficient quantity of such drinks for the patients as are ordered, and when they cannot be got, that they acquaint the physician or surgeon therewith. In the fever, flux, and small-pox wards, gruel and panado are constantly to be kept ready, both night and day; and in these wards, a small chink of the upper part of some one or more of the windows is constantly to be kept open, so as at night gently to move the flame of a candle when standing on the table, unless otherwise ordered by the physician: The proper patients only are to come into these wards, and no others whatever.

XIV. That no cards, or gaming of any kind, be permitted in the hospital.

XV. That such nurses as can be spared by the matron, go to chapel every Sunday; and that the nurses take care, that such patients

tients as are able do attend divine service whenever it is performed; and report to the physician or surgeon, such persons as neglect going there.

XVI. That no person whatever be permitted to sell wine, brandy, strong beer or other liquors, nor any articles whatsoever, either within the hospital or its bounds.

XVII. That no will be made for any patient, without leave first had in writing, from the physician or surgeon; and that no officer, assistant, clerk, matron, nurse, or any person whatsoever belonging to the hospital, shall accept a will made in their favour.

O R D E R S

*To be observed by the PATIENTS in the ROYAL
HOSPITAL at HASLAR.*

I. No one shall be guilty of blasphemous expressions, unlawful swearing, cursing, drunken-

drunkenness, uncleanness, lying, or other scandalous actions, to the corruption of good manners, and in derogation of God's honour.

- II. All shall behave with proper respect to the officers of the hospital; and none shall presume to quarrel or fight in the hospital.
- III. No one shall absent himself from the hospital without leave.
- IV. No one shall pilfer, pawn, or damage any of the furniture or things appertaining to the hospital, or to any persons therein; nor shall any one defile, deface, or damage any part of the hospital.
- V. No person shall walk on the grass-plats, in the area of the building, nor ease themselves in any place not allotted for that purpose.
- VI. No one shall presume to beg of any person, either within or without the hospital, on any pretence whatsoever.

VII.

VII. No one shall be noisy, or seditious on account of any deficiency in quantity or defect in quality of provisions, or any thing else ; but if there shall be any cause of complaint, the same shall be quietly made known to one of the superior officers of the hospital, that what is proper may be done thereupon.

VIII. Whoever shall be privy to the commission of any of the aforesaid misdemeanors, shall immediately, or as soon after as possible, discover the same to one of the superior officers of the hospital.

IX. No patients are to be suffered to smook tobacco in any of the wards ; if any patient shall persist in doing it after having been admonished by the nurse, she is to report such patient to the physician or surgeon.

X. All the patients who are able, are to go to the barber's shop twice a week to be shaved ; and whosoever shall be found to have disobeyed this direction, will be complained of to the officers of the ships to which they respectively belong.

The

The *Scheme of Diet* at this hospital, is the same as used at the Royal Hospital at Plymouth, viz.

DIET AT HASLAR HOSPITAL.

- I. *Low diet.* Water gruel, panado, rice gruel, milk pottage, or broth, and bread and butter, if necessary. For *drink*, toast and water, ptisan, or white decoction.
- II. *Half diet.* For *breakfast*, milk pottage; for *dinner*, half a pound of mutton; some light bread pudding, or in lieu of it, some greens; a pint of broth, one pound of bread, one quart of small beer; the men upon this diet to dine in their own wards.
- III. *Full diet.* *Breakfast* as above; for *dinner* one pound of meat, one pint of broth, one pound of bread, three pints of small beer; *supper* in the two last named diets, to be of broth left at dinner; or, if thought necessary, to be of milk pottage.

Rice milk, orange whey, orange and lemon water, tamarind whey and water, vinegar whey,

†† D

balm

balm tea, sage tea. These to be discretionally ordered by the physician and surgeons.]

WILTSHIRE.

COUNTY GAOL AT SALISBURY.

The debtors' lodgings are very high; 2s. 6d. a week for each, though two in a bed. On the felons' side there are three floors, and on each eight cells (some about ten feet and a half by six and a half, and nine feet high to the crown of the arch) which open into narrow passages, hardly three feet wide. The cells being too few, when the felons are numerous two or three are crowded into one cell. This was the case in 1784, when seventeen prisoners and one turnkey died of the gaol fever. The felons then were kept in *close* confinement: *now* they are out *only* one hour in a day. As for preserving the health of prisoners not hung up: no bath, though the prison is so conveniently situated, being near a fine stream

stream of water. The gaol not white-washed since the sickness in 1784. Here the acquitted prisoners that are *poor* are kept in irons till the judge leaves the town, but others are *immediately* discharged.

No part of this prison is now a bridewell; yet the warrants are expressed "to be kept to hard labour." The *stable* and *cart-house* still continue, though *many* common-side debtors and petty offenders are *crowded* into a smoky room adjoining. Surgeon, Mr. Robert Still; salary now £21. Gaoler's salary *only* £50. Often have I wished, that *all* fees were abolished.

1787, Nov. 16, Debtors 18. Felons, &c. 21.

1788, July 3, ——— 13. ——— 17.*

* At both my visits, I looked into the *County Infirmary* adjoining, and found the men's wards as offensive as any of the rooms in the gaol. All the windows were shut, though the weather was mild, and the air clear and dry; and it seemed by the cobwebs and dust, that those on the staircases were never opened.

COUNTY BRIDEWELL AND TOWN GAOL.

DEVIZES. A *new* prison with six separate courts, of which *one only* can be viewed by the keeper from his windows. The magistrates have *improperly* built on the old close and confined spot; a fault too common in such cases, when at no greater expense, a more healthy situation might have been chosen out of the town. Employment, said to be making nets. Surgeon's salary *now* £15. No chaplain. Allowance to felons *now* three-pence a day in bread, a pint of small beer, and two pound of potatoes a week.* Gaoler's salary £100.

1788, May 29, Debtor 1. Felons and Petty
Offenders 29.

* A prisoner, *Thomas Plat*, lately died in one of the solitary cells, and the verdict of the coroner's jury was, *died by hunger and cold*. Since this, the allowance was augmented as above.

COUNTY

COUNTY BRIDEWELL AND TOWN GAOL.

MARLBOROUGH. This prison is almost new: now having—for the men, two work or day-rooms, and two bed-rooms: a spacious court and water:—for the women, a work-room and two bed-rooms, with a court and water. In the work-rooms were rollers and towels. No employment. Keeper's salary £60, out of which he supplies each prisoner with twopenny worth of bread a day. Surgeon's salary £10. Clauses against spirituous liquors not hung up. The rules, the same as at the Devizes, are hung up, of which I here copy one article; " That
 " the prisoners be obliged to sweep out and
 " clean their rooms every day, and that they
 " also wash their faces and hands, at least twice
 " in every day, for which purpose *towels* and
 " *water tubs* are to be conveniently placed for
 " them." In the old prison, at two of my former

mer

mer visits, I found the gaol-fever; and since the year 1782, the keeper and surgeon died of it; but now there is little danger of such accidents.*

1788, May 30, Prisoners 5.

SALISBURY CITY GAOL. The property of the Bishop. In a ruinous condition.

1787, Nov. 17, No Prisoners.

* The work-house for St. *Peter's* parish in Marlborough, adjoining to the bridewell, is quite out of repair, and the clay floors in holes. The rooms and inhabitants were very dirty, and had no linen or means of cleanliness. They had little or no bedding: some lay on straw on the floors, and others had a few rags to cover them on old bedsteads. It is *no wonder* that a putrid fever lately ran through *this* house. The other poor-house, in St. *Mary's* parish, is equally neglected: three or four lay in a bed with only rags and straw, and some of the children were almost naked.—Parish officers so inattentive to what *humanity* and *decency* require, expose the inhabitants of whole towns to the danger of contagious disorders, by such objects wandering about the streets. I have in a former publication, mentioned an instance of a foreign gaoler being made an example of (being hanged) for starving his prisoners. Is not a breach of trust in *overseers* of the poor, equally culpable and injurious?

July

July 3d, 1788, it was taken down, and the corporation intend to build a court-room on the spot; and I hear they propose sending their felons, &c. to the county gaol; which I hope the county magistrates will prevent: their gaol being too small for the general number of their own prisoners.

COUNTY GAOL AT DORCHESTER.

A new gaol on a *bad* plan, and slightly built. A much better plan was proposed by Mr. *Pitt*, but it was over-ruled. The rooms for debtors very dirty: no free ward: not white-washed, though the act for preserving the health of prisoners is hung up. Allowance to both debtors and felons $1\frac{1}{2}$ *lb.* of bread a day. It was weight; but of bad quality, and not well baked, though the county pays for the best. The convicts have not the 2*s.* 6*d.* a week, though I suspect it is charged in the bill of cravings: here and in several other counties, this article in the under-sheriff's

sheriff's bill should be examined. Acquitted prisoners are kept in gaol in irons till the judge leaves the town, unless certain fees be paid to the clerk of the crown, cryer, &c. but if the fees be paid, they are *immediately* discharged: for such as have money have no fear of detention for other indictments. Gaoler's salary £60 and £40 for turnkeys.

1787, Nov. 16, Debtors 23. Felons, &c. 8.

COUNTY BRIDEWELL.

SHERBORN. A new prison. Passages too narrow (three feet): cells too low; some not eight feet high: the womens' rooms will be very close, a high wall being only six feet distant from the front: no employment. Those committed to *hard labour* are locked up in solitary cells, and out only *one* hour in a day, which seems to be, in several places, the magistrates' *mode* of curing the prisoners of their habits

habits of idleness. Allowance, a threepenny loaf every other day (weight 2 lb. 3 oz.).—
Keeper a sheriff's officer. Salary £40.

1788, July 2, Prisoners 9.

DORCHESTER TOWN GAOL. No alteration,

1788, Nov. 16, No Prisoners.

DEVONSHIRE.

HIGH GAOL AT EXETER.

I had the pleasure to find that the proprietor, *John Denny Roll*, Esq. has given £1000 towards a new gaol, which will now be under the direction of the county magistrates by an act of Parliament. Neither the late gaoler, *Waber*, who died of the gaol fever, nor his widow who kept the gaol one year after him, nor the present gaoler, have received any money from the county for

†† E

the

the fees of acquitted prisoners, according to the act, though they have paid Mr. *Follet*, the clerk of the crown, his demand for the Judge's Calendars.

There were three women in their sick room, and I was surprized at finding with them a shoemaker at work at his trade. On inquiring into the cause, I was informed that he was the husband of one of the women who was committed Sept. 1st, 1785, and on the 20th of March, 1786, was sentenced to be transported for seven years, for stealing a calf's skin. In Nov. 1786, she was ordered to the hulk at Plymouth, but on account of lameness contracted by a fever in the gaol, she could not be removed: a fine child, which is her fifteenth, was born in the prison. Her husband persisted in declaring he would never leave her, but would go abroad with her. Such constancy of affection in prisons is very uncommon in *men*, though I have frequently found it in the other sex. But by the kindness of Lord *Sydney*, the woman received a free pardon, Dec. 27th, 1787: and I since learn that this couple are useful and worthy members of the community.

Here

Here the assize convicts have the 2s. 6d. a week; but those convicted at the sessions only the county allowance of 22 oz. of bread, which was good, and full weight. The under-sheriff in his late bill of cravings charged the same for both; but the latter was not allowed. However the county indemnified the gaoler, who had paid the 2s. 6d. a week to the session convicts. Prisoners indicted for felony and acquitted at the assize, are not immediately discharged, as ordered by the late act, but are kept in prison several days, till the judge leaves the town; unless the clerk of the crown hand over a paper to the gaoler as an intimation that his fees are paid: then there is no pretext of detention made, for fear of other indictments being brought against them.

I found at my last visit that the gaoler's salary is now £100, and that the county proposes to build a new gaol, for which a situation is chosen, much better than that of the present gaol.*

E 2

1787,

* I would make my acknowledgments to the gentlemen of this county, for the kind and polite notice they were pleased to take of me at the quarter sessions in August last, relative to my suggestions on a new county gaol. I freely acknowledge my
views,

1787, Nov. 13, Felons 22.

1788, June 29, Felons 23. Deserters 2.

SHERIFF'S WARD, EXETER.

The frequent broils between the keeper and his prisoners for two or three years past shew the necessity of rules and orders for *prisoners* and *keepers* being fixed by parliament. I put the same question here, that I had proposed at York, Durham, Newcastle, Nottingham, Leicester, Norwich, &c. namely, what was the number of debtors who had flung themselves into prison, through the hope of an insolvent act during this year (1787), and who had settled with their creditors, and gone out, on finding that the bill did not pass? The number was twenty, and their names were given

views, for many years, did not extend far from the old gaol, and it was the gentlemen themselves, or their ingenious architect Mr. *Blackburn*, that found out a much better situation to build on.

me;

me; but he said, that the number was greater in 1786, when an insolvent bill was thrown out.

I am sensible however that there are *real* objects of compassion in many of our prisons, who are even in want of the *necessaries* of life, having *no* allowance; *no* friends. Such is *William Luckis*, who has been here confined since April 1786, under a heavy *treble* penalty, on a conviction for smuggling: he was *only* a hired servant to a farmer, and when he came in was a hale young fellow, but is now much thinner through want: yet such unfortunate persons, being *king's fines*, insolvent bills *exclude*.

1787, Nov. 13, Debtors 44.

COUNTY BRIDEWELL.

EXETER. The prisoners are now employed in picking oakum, and in the extensive garden. The late keeper was not so attentive and active as the present. The prison is clean
and

and quiet: but the men's lodging and associating together is destructive of morals, and disposes them to plan escapes. Allowance now the same as at the county gaol, twenty-two ounces of bread.

1787, Nov. 13, Prisoners 22.

EXETER CITY AND COUNTY GAOL.

The same *close, bad* prison. Windows towards the street: no court: no water.

1787, Nov. 13.	- -	Debtors 3.
		Felons, &c. 2.
1788, June 29.	- -	Debtors 2.
		Felons, &c. 11.

By the kindness of Mr. Alderman *Walker*, the prisoners' allowance now is $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of bread: their former allowance was only three half-penny-

pennyworth, which at my last visit weighed 15 oz*.

TAVISTOCK. The town prison at Tavistock is one room adjoining to the town hall.

1787, Nov. 12, No Prisoners.

PLYMOUTH TOWN GAOL.

The town gaol at Plymouth is *close*, and surrounded with houses: the windows are towards the street; and there is no water but what the three town serjeants occasionally hand in. The rooms were white-washed, but made very offensive by the sewers.

* The poor-house for this opulent city, is *finely* situated on a rising ground out of the city. There were in it about six hundred persons; but it was not clean: the windows were almost all shut: no separation of the young and old: there seemed to be no proper management; and there were no rules hung up.

1787,

1787, Nov. 10, - - Debtors 5,
 Felons, &c. 2.
 1788, June 27, - - Prisoners 3.

The ROYAL HOSPITAL *near* PLYMOUTH.

This *noble hospital* would admit of some improvements, particularly, a receiving room, as hinted before in *The State of the Prisons*. The most proper situation of a receiving-room for patients is near the landing place, between the house appropriated for the patients' chests and bedding, and the fumigating-house: in this room, furnished with a copper, bathing tub, &c. the patients should be washed, and their own clothes carried to the fumigating-house, if necessary,* without being brought into the hospital: after this, being furnished with the hospital-dresses, they should be examined and sent to their proper wards, from a door to be broken through the wall of the hospital: with such pre-

* It has been found that the fumes of a *small* quantity of brimstone in the fumigating room will not destroy all the vermin in clothes; but three pounds and a half will effectually do it in twenty-four hours.

cautions,

cautions, it is obvious that the hazard of spreading contagion must be much lessened.

A window should be made near the door of each ward, and opposite the window in the lobby, for the better ventilation of the wards.

Two pavilions at the entrance of the hospital, contiguous to the steward's and agent's offices, are wanted—for a council-room, and for the purpose of surveying invalids; the present one being inconvenient, and subjected to noxious smells on account of its situation in a narrow passage up one pair of stairs—likewise, for apartments for assistant-surgeons and assistant-dispensers in time of war, who, for reasons too obvious to mention, ought to sleep within the hospital.

The chapel should be on the ground floor: it is now up stairs, and the ceiling is too low. It might be converted into a dispensary, much more convenient than that used at present, which is too dark, and not sufficiently large for the purpose.

A nurse's room or *cabin* injures several of the wards: the others are more free and open.

C O R N W A L L.

COUNTY GAOL AT LAUNSESTON.

No alteration, but a pump in the men's court, and the drains properly conducted through the sewer. No divine service on Sundays.

1787, Nov. 12, Felons, &c. 3.

COUNTY GAOL AT BODMIN.

This gaol was not so clean, nor in such order as at my former visits; the gaoler, as I understand, having *many* avocations. The women felons and petty offenders were crowded together, though the opposite rooms were all empty. The chaplain's curate, who has but a small salary,

too feldom attends. No casements to the windows in the passages; and the floors are of soft brick. The affize convicts have the king's allowance of half a crown a week. Here were some prisoners who had been *several years* in confinement, by a writ *de excommunicato capiendo*. Gaoler's salary 100*l*. Turnkey 20*l*. and fuel.

1788, June 26, - - Debtors 18.

Felons 5.

Petty offenders 24.

LOSTWITHIEL GAOL FOR DEBTORS.

No alteration.

1788, June 27. Prisoners 5.

COUNTY GAOL AT IVELCHESTER.

A new gaol, at the back of the old one, is almost finished, containing twenty-six cells (eight

F 2

feet

feet eight inches by seven feet eight inches). There are *four* staples and rings fixed in the floor of *each* cell; surely not for chaining down prisoners in their solitary confinement. This gaol being near the river, I hope the gentlemen will not forget *baths*, as the *act* directs.* Debtors' court too small; may be enlarged (forty feet in front) at a small expense. Allowance to felons three pennyworth of bread. Convicts have the king's allowance of half a crown a week. Gaoler's salary 125*l.* in lieu of the tap. Surgeon, Mr. *Poole*; his salary 25*l.* No rules hung up.

* I hope I shall be excused in repeating what I have had occasion to mention with respect to many prisons, that there is *no bath*, though baths are ordered in all gaols by the *Act for preserving the health of prisoners*. I would here also remind gentlemen, that when baths are provided in compliance with the act, if they be not made *convenient*, so that felons in their irons may *commodiously* use them; and if there be *no* allowance for *soap* and *towels*; these prisoners will receive very little if any benefit from them, and will never bathe but when actually compelled.

1788, July 2. Debtors 57.*
 Felons, &c. 17.

COUNTY BRIDEWELLS.

TAUNTON. This *prison* is dirty and neglected. In the court were fowls, geese, &c. At a former visit, here was a chaplain, whose salary was 50*l.* which was afterwards reduced to 20*l.*; but now there is no chaplain. The chapel is used for the confinement of the dirtiest prisoners, and I found it as bad as a pig-sty. No employment. Allowance three

* In most of the county gaols I have, in my late tours, inquired of the gaolers, how many debtors they candidly thought had flung themselves into their gaols, on what are called *friendly* actions, and who on the insolvent bill *not* passing have gone out? After some deliberation, they have told me the number; and some have added, " Few people know how much this country is obliged to the Chancellor for his opposing the insolvent bills."

penny-

pennyworth of bread. Keeper's salary
£45.

1788, June 30, Prisoners 14.

SHEPTON-MALLET. The court is considerably enlarged, and there are four new cells. The chapel is now made a lodging-room for women. Keeper, a sheriff's officer; his salary 75^{l.} in lieu of the tap: many of the prisoners were heated with liquor, and smoking in his room. Prisoners of either sex, who pay the keeper 2^{s.} a week for part of a bed, have the privilege of being in his house. No employment. Allowance 3^{d.} in bread.

1788, July 1, Prisoners 35.

BRIS-

BRISTOL NEWGATE.

This close *prison* was white without, and foul within. The *dungeon* and several rooms very dirty.* The bath used as a vault. No allowance for mops, brooms, or towels to the prisoners. Here, and in the bridewell, were several dogs of visiters and others. Such dirty animals should never be admitted where attention to cleanliness is so necessary to the health of the inhabitants. Clauses against spirituous liquors not hung up. The admission of such liquors cannot be prevented, while both debtors and felons constantly beg at the grates. The allowance still to felons only a penny loaf before trial, and

* I am generally most attentive to the dungeons and rooms of the *felons*: for, though the debtors' apartments are often equally dirty, yet, besides having other privileges, their rooms are opened sooner, and shut much later: it is seldom that any contagious disorder *begins* with them.

a two-

a twopenny loaf after conviction: (weight of this in 1787, 1lb. 7oz.). Keeper's salary 200l. At my last visit the prison was much cleaner.

1787, Nov. 19 and 22, -	Debtors 21.
	Felons, &c. 25.
1788, May 27, - -	Debtors 24.
	Felons, &c. 25.
	Transports 18.

BRISTOL CITY BRIDEWELL. No alteration, but much cleaner than at any of my former visits; and at my last visit every room was perfectly clean. The prisoners now are not defrauded in their bread allowance: (twopenny loaf in 1787, 1lb. 7oz.) Clauses against spirituous liquors not hung up. No employment. Salary 30l. to the present keeper; the same as to the former.

1787,

1787, Nov. 19 and 22, - Prisoners 16. *

1788, May 27, - - - 14.

BATH CITY GAOL. No alteration. The prison clean and quiet. Convenient rooms for common-side debtors. The workshop is seventeen feet by thirteen. Keeper's salary £31:10:0.

1787, Nov. 18, Debtors 2. / Felons, &c. 6.

* The *Bristol Infirmary* now building in the close and confined situation of the old one, will be a monument of the unskillfulness of the *subscribers*, or of their *inattention* to what constitutes a healthy hospital, when a fine situation was proposed, at no great distance, and was *strongly* recommended by the gentlemen of the *faculty*.

Colston's hospital for one hundred boys. Their uniform is blue with an orange-coloured lining. The school and bed-rooms were clean: the boys looked healthy: and every thing regular and in order. The daily allowance of bread (which weighed only 12 oz.) is too scanty. They have 6 oz. at dinner, three for breakfast, and three for supper. (The bread allowance was lately *increased* to the boys at Christ Church Hospital, London.)

BATH INFIRMARY.

May 29th, 1788. Cleaner and fresher than at my visit last year: several windows open; but many of the upper sashes do not let down, nor do any of those in the passages or staircases; which is the more necessary in such close and confined places as the site of this infirmary.*

BRIDGEWATER TOWN GAOL. The room in which prisoners from the county gaol are con-

* I am generally attentive to the staircases and passage windows in hospitals, that the wards, by apertures, (as at Leeds) may be freshened from them. I have often mentioned the upper sashes being fixed; for if lofty and moveable, the smallest opening produces a circulation of the stagnant air, and that so imperceptibly to the patients, that there is little danger of either the nurses, or them shutting the windows.

fined

fined during the affize, is twenty feet by eighteen feet nine inches. Here, the gaoler said he had sometimes thirty prisoners, who were almost stifled. Only one window; another that was opposite being stopped up. The gaoler pays the *hard* tax on windows, £3:15:6. Salary none; has licence for beer.

1788, June 30, Debtors 3.



ABSTRACT

...during the ...
...the ...
...who ...
...and ...
...the ...
...the ...



[Faint handwritten text]

ABSTRACT

A B S T R A C T

FROM THE

Acts of the 14th and 24th GEO. III.

For preserving the Health of Prisoners in Gaol, and preventing the Gaol Distemper; and for enabling the Justices of Peace to build and repair Gaols in their respective Counties.

WHEREAS the malignant fever, that is commonly called *The Gaol Distemper*, is found to be owing to a want of cleanliness and fresh air in the several gaols in England and Wales, and the fatal consequences of that disorder, of which there has been, of late, too much experience, might be prevented, if Justices of the Peace were duly authorized to provide such accommodations in gaols as may be necessary to answer this salutary purpose: May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the several Justices of the Peace, in that part of Great Britain called England and Wales, within their several jurisdictions,

a

dictions, in their quarter sessions assembled, are hereby authorized and required to order the walls and cielings of the several cells and wards, both of the debtors and the felons, and also of any other rooms used by the prisoners in their respective gaols and prisons, where felons are usually confined, to be scraped and white-washed, once in the year at least; to be regularly washed and kept clean, and constantly supplied with fresh air, by means of hand ventilators, or otherwise; to order two rooms in each gaol or prison, one for the men, and the other for the women, to be set apart for the sick prisoners, directing them to be removed into such rooms as soon as they shall be seized with any disorder, and kept separate from those who shall be in health; to order a warm and cold bath, or commodious bathing tubs, to be provided in each gaol or prison, and to direct the prisoners to be washed in such warm or cold baths or bathing tubs, according to the condition in which they shall be at the time, before they are suffered to go out of such gaols or prisons upon any occasion whatever; to order this act to be painted in large and legible characters upon a board, and hung up in some conspicuous part of each of the said gaols and prisons; and to appoint an experienced surgeon or apothecary, at a stated salary, to attend each gaol or prison respectively, who shall, and he is hereby directed to report to the said Justices by whom he is appointed, at each quarter sessions, a state of the health of the prisoners under his care or superintendance.



“ And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Justices of the Peace, in their said quarter sessions assembled, are hereby authorized to direct the several courts of justice within their respective jurisdictions to be properly ventilated; to order cloaths to be provided for the prisoners when they see occasion; to prevent the prisoners from being kept under ground, whenever they can do it conveniently; and to make such other orders, from time to time, for restoring or preserving the health of prisoners, as they shall think necessary.

“ And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the expences attending the execution of the orders of the said Justices, made in pursuance of this act, so far as the same shall respect county gaols and prisons, and courts of justice belonging to counties, shall be borne and defrayed, at all times, out of the respective county rates; and so far as the same shall respect the gaols and prisons, and courts of justice, of particular cities, towns corporate, cinque ports, liberties, franchises, or places, that do not contribute to the rates of the counties in which they are respectively situated, such expences shall be defrayed out of the public stock or rates of such cities, towns corporate, cinque ports, liberties, franchises, or places, having such exclusive jurisdictions, to which such gaols, or prisons, or courts of justice shall respectively belong: And if any gaoler or keeper of any prison shall, at any time, neglect or disobey the orders of such Justices made in pursuance of this act, he may be proceeded
against

against in a summary way, by complaint made to the Judges of Assize, or to the Justices, in their quarter sessions: and if he be found guilty of such neglect or disobedience, he shall pay such fine as the Judges of Assize, or Justices, shall impose, and shall be committed in case of non-payment."

Abstract, 24th GEO. III.

" And whereas the preventing gaolers from selling any liquors, or deriving any profit from the sale of liquors, may be a great means of preventing drunkenness, riots, and other disorders in gaols, and of preserving good order therein; and it may be proper to give sufficient power and authority to the Justices of the Peace in their sessions, in certain cases, to allow salaries to gaolers, in lieu of the profits which are now derived from the sale of liquors; be it therefore enacted, That, from and after the said first day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace of any county, riding, division, city, town, liberty, or precinct, within that part of Great Britain called England, or the principality of Wales, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or some special adjournment of the same, held for such express purpose, and they are hereby authorized and impowered, if it shall appear to them necessary or proper, to appoint such salaries or allowances to such gaolers and their assistants, in the several gaols within their respective jurisdictions, and to vary the same, from time to time, as to them shall seem meet; and to order and direct the said salaries and allowances

allowances to be paid out of the county rate, by the treasurer of such county, riding, division, city, town, liberty, or precinct, upon a certificate, signed by the Chairman of such Quarter Sessions, specifying the salaries and allowances so directed to be made.

“ Provided always and be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Chairman of any Quarter Sessions, or adjournment thereof, to sign such certificate, for such salaries or allowances to be granted under this act, unless such salaries or allowances shall have been settled at some General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or some special adjournment thereof, and notice shall have been given fourteen days at least before the holding such General Quarter Sessions, or such adjournment thereof, by two several advertisements inserted in some newspaper printed and circulated in the county, riding, division, city, town, liberty, or precinct, in which such gaols are situated, and where such salaries or allowances are to be granted to the gaolers, of an intended application for the granting such salaries or allowances; which said advertisements shall be signed by the Clerk of the Peace of such county, riding, division, city, town, liberty, or precinct, or his deputy, for the time being.

“ And be it further enacted, That from and after the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, no gaoler, or any person or persons in trust for or employed by
such

such gaoler, shall suffer tippling or gaming in such prison; or shall sell or dispose of, or permit or suffer to be sold or disposed of, or be capable of being licensed to sell or dispose of, any wine, beer, ale, or other liquors; or have any beneficial interest or concern whatsoever in the sale or disposal of any liquors of any kind, or in any tap house, tap room, or tap, under the penalty of ten pounds for every such offence, to be recovered by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by warrant under the hands and seals of any two Justices of the Peace acting for the county, riding, division, city, town, liberty, or precinct, within which such gaol is situated, (which warrant such Justices are hereby required to grant), upon the confession of the party or parties, or upon the information of any witness or witnesses, upon oath, (which oath such Justices are hereby empowered to administer); and the said penalty, after the charges of recovering the same shall be deducted, shall be paid one moiety to the informer, and the other moiety to the use of the prisoners confined within such gaol; and in case sufficient distress cannot be found, then it shall be lawful for such Justices to commit such offender or offenders to the house of correction for the county or place where the offence shall be committed, there to remain, without bail or mainprize, for any time not exceeding three calendar months, unless penalty, and all reasonable charges, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

“ And

“ And be it further enacted, That all Justices of the Peace before whom any person shall be convicted of any offence against this act, shall and may cause the conviction to be drawn up in the following form, or to the like effect; that is to say,

County, } “ BE it remembered, That on the
 &c. of } day of in the
 year of the reign of his Majesty
A. B. is convicted be-
 fore of his Majesty's
 Justices of the Peace for the said coun-
 ty, or riding, division, city, town, li-
 berty, or precinct (as the case shall be)
 by virtue of an act of Parliament made
 in the 24th year of the reign of his Ma-
 jesty King George the Third, intituled,
 [Here set forth the title of the act, and
 specify the offence, and the time and
 place when and where the same was
 committed.]

“ Given under our hands and seals,
 the day and year aforesaid.”

F I N I S.

